

## REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 13 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found at page 20, line 26-page 21, line 12 and page 22, lines 1-9.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11 and 13 are currently pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

### **I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 5-8, 10, 11 AND 13 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER ARNOLD (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,275,848) IN VIEW OF TANAKA ET AL. (U.S. PATENT NO. 5,905,495; HEREINAFTER "TANAKA"):**

The present invention as recited in amended claim 1, for example, relates to an electronic mail system for delivering electronic mail sent from a sender to the appropriate receiver. The system comprises attached file retrieving means for retrieving, in the case of a first store location information, a first user account, and a first password being added to electronic mail sent from the sender, an attached file from a server of location shown by the first store location information using the first user account and the first password; and attached file separating means for separating, in the case of the attached file being added to the electronic mail sent from the sender, the attached file from the electronic mail.

The system as recited in amended claim 1, further comprises attached file transferring means for transferring the attached file separated from the electronic mail by the attached file separating means or retrieved from the server by the attached file retrieving means to a predetermined server using a second user account and a second password; store location information adding means for adding second store location information indicating a location where the attached file transferred by the attached file transferring means is stored to the electronic mail; and log-in account adding means for adding the second user account and the second password to the electronic mail.

At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Arnold fails to disclose adding a user account and password to an electronic mail. However, the Examiner asserts that Tanaka discloses these features.

None of the foregoing references relied upon, individually or combined, disclose "attached file retrieving means for retrieving, in the case of a first store location information, a first user account, and a first password being added to electronic mail sent from the sender, an attached file from a server of location shown by the first store location information using the first user account and the first password; attached file separating means for separating, in the case

of the attached file being added to the electronic mail sent from the sender, the attached file from the electronic mail; attached file transferring means for transferring the attached file separated from the electronic mail by the attached file separating means or retrieved from the server by the attached file retrieving means to a predetermined server using a second user account and a second password; store location information adding means for adding second store location information indicating a location where the attached file transferred by the attached file transferring means is stored to the electronic mail; and log-in account adding means for adding the second user account and the second password to the electronic mail,” as recited in amended claim 1, for example. That is, none of the foregoing references, individually or combined, disclose the Applicants “attached file retrieving means” nor the Applicants “attached file transferring means” as recited in amended claim 1, for example.

In contrast, Tanaka discloses a communication system which enables communication with a desired party user even when a caller use of a communication terminal does not know a terminal address of a communication terminal of the party user, while eliminating the need for provision of a monitor server (see column 2, lines 34-46). As shown in FIG. 13, for example, a communication terminal 1000a of a user A first gets its own terminal address and prompts its own user to enter its own password and stores the terminal address and password in an outgoing file as an electronic mail directed to a user B of a communication terminal 1000b (see column 19, lines 35-47). The user B receives the electronic mail from a mail server and then the user B is prompted to perform a reply communication. The communication terminal 1000b prompts the user B to information the communication terminal 1000a of user A of the reply communication. The password stored in the outgoing file is attached to a command “connection request” to be transmitted at the time of the reply communication. The communication terminal 1000a of user A when receiving the command “connection request”, collates the password attached to the received command “communication request” with the password stored in the password storage file and when identical, the communication terminal 1000a of user A determines that its own user A asked the user B the reply communication, and then transmits a command “calling notification” to the communication terminal 1000b of user B which sent the command “connection request” (see column 19, line 49 – column 20, line 8). Then, an “incoming” message appears at the communication terminal 1000a of user A, while a “calling” message appears at the communication terminal 1000b of user B. When the user A enters an instruction accepting the “incoming” message, a communication channel is established between the communication terminals 1000a and 1000b to enable communication between users A and B. That is, in Tanaka, a password is merely used to confirm that user A wants a reply

communication from user B. The communication system of Tanaka does not enable an attached file to be separated from the electronic mail sent to user B and to be stored using a second password and a second user account, in order for user B to be able to retrieve the attached file separately upon request.

Although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding differences of various other rejected claims over the cited references.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Arnold and Tanaka fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness over the present invention. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

## **II. CONCLUSION:**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore, defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

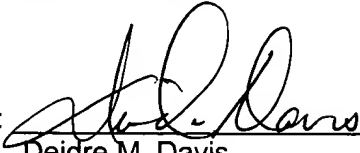
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Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

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By:   
Deidre M. Davis  
Registration No. 52,797

1201 New York Avenue, NW, 7th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 434-1500  
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501